

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/389,915

Examiner

Yean-Hsi Chang

Applicant(s)

LAM ET AL.

Art Unit

2835

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed Apr. 8, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,4-30,39,42-49,81-90,92-101 and 109-121.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 03 September 1999 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 3/15/04
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-2, 4-30, 39-49, 81-90, 92-101 and 109-121 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The best prior art of record, Vessa (US 5,008,870), Koch et al. (US 4,789,774), Ng et al. (US 5,222,076), Owen et al. (US 5,450,221), Lewis et al. (US 5,422,751), Bejin (US 5,406,729), and Ohgami et al. (US 5,689,400), taken alone or in combination, fails to teach or fairly suggest: a display apparatus comprising a housing substantial portions being translucent, and a cosmetic shield provided between said housing and a frame supporting a LCD panel, to mask said frame and said LCD panel from being visible through the substantial translucent portions of said housing as set forth in claim 1; a computer monitor comprising a housing substantial portions being translucent, and a cosmetic shield provided between said housing and a light source provided in said housing, to mask said light source from being visible through the substantial translucent portions of said housing as set forth in claim 19; a method for illuminating a design in a translucent housing by passing a portion of light reflected from a reflecting surface through an opening of a cosmetic shield provided between said housing and a light panel as set forth in claim 28; a computer monitor comprising a light diffuser being a label as set forth in claim 39, and being able to substantially normalize the intensity of the light being emitted through the transparent portion across flat panel displays with

Art Unit: 2835

substantially different characteristics in the light emitted in the back direction as set forth in claim 45; a computer monitor comprising light emitted by a flat panel display, passing through a translucent portion of an outer shell and producing a multi-color illuminated design as set forth in claim 42; a computer monitor comprising a light guide that receives a portion of the light emitted in a back direction by a flat panel display, and directs the portion of the received light to a predetermined destination for illumination of a feature as set forth in claim 46; a portable computer comprising a display unit including a flat panel display and a translucent outer shell as set forth in claim 81; wherein the light source being an LCD as set forth in claim 93; a computing system comprising a cosmetic shield disposed between a light source inside a housing, and a substantial translucent portion of the housing, the cosmetic shield having a light blocking portion and a light passing portion as set forth in claim 96; a computer monitor comprising an EMI shield disposed between a display screen and a translucent wall of a housing as set forth in claim 100; a portable computer comprising a cosmetic shield disposed between a flat panel display and a translucent outer shell of a display unit, said cosmetic shield including a reflective surface and a masking opening for allowing light emitted from the flat panel display to pass therethrough for illuminating a portion of said outer shell as set forth in claim 109; and a light diffuser configured to diffuse the light that is passed through the translucent portion of the housing as set forth in claim 88. Claims 2 and 4-18 depend from claim 1; claims 20-27 depend from claim 19; claims 29-30 depend from claim 28; claim 43-44 depend from claim 42; claims 47-49, 114-115 and 117-119 depend from claim 46; claims 82-87 and 116 depend from claim 81; claims

Art Unit: 2835

89-90, 92 and 94-95 depend from claim 88; claims 97-99 depend from claim 96; claims 101 and 120-121 depend from claim 100; and claims 110-113 depend from claim 109.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Correspondence

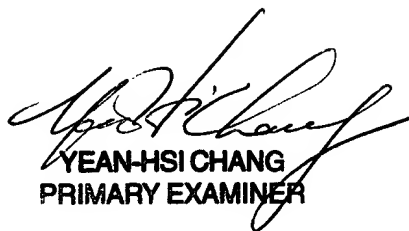
3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yean-Hsi Chang whose telephone number is (571) 272-2038. The examiner can normally be reached on 08:00 - 16:00, Monday - Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Art Unit phone number is (571) 272-2800, ext. 35. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Art Unit: 2835

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-8558.

Yean-Hsi Chang
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 2835
April 20, 2005



YEAN-HSI CHANG
PRIMARY EXAMINER